

Coyne, Michael

From: Coleman, Norm B.
Sent: Tuesday, June 16, 2020 7:56 PM
To: 'brad.morris@mail.house.gov'
Subject: Georgian Dream Statement on RSC 2020 National Security Strategy
Attachments: Georgian Dream Statement on RSC National Security Strategy.PDF

Dear Brad,

Attached please find the statement from the Georgian Dream governing party regarding [The RSC National Security Strategy: Strengthening America & Countering Global Threats.](#)

The Georgian Dream Party greatly appreciates that the strategy proposal affirms Georgia's steadfast commitment to the U.S.-Georgia strategic partnership. Georgian Dream does express some concern over a negative statement regarding the leader and founder of the Georgian Dream, former Georgia Prime Minister Bidzina Ivanishvili. Those comments were apparently made without any documented support. Georgian Dream notes that under this leadership, the Georgian Dream-led government has moved Georgia closer to the Western Alliance, and to the U.S., than at any other point in the nation's history.

Georgian Dream looks forward to working with the members of the RSC to further strengthen the U.S.-Georgia relationship.

Please let me know if you have any questions, and as always, I welcome any feedback you may have.

Best,

Norm

Senator Norm Coleman

Senior Counsel

Hogan Lovells US LLP
Columbia Square
555 Thirteenth Street, NW
Washington, DC 20004-1109
Tel: +1 202 637 5600
Email: norm.coleman@hoganlovells.com
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This material is distributed by Hogan Lovells US LLP on behalf of the Georgian Dream Party. Additional information is available at the Department of Justice, Washington, DC.

Coyne, Michael

From: Coleman, Norm B.
Sent: Tuesday, June 16, 2020 7:57 PM
To: 'brandon.steinmann@mail.house.gov'
Subject: Georgian Dream Statement on RSC 2020 National Security Strategy
Attachments: Georgian Dream Statement on RSC National Security Strategy.PDF

Dear Brandon,

Attached please find the statement from the Georgian Dream governing party regarding [The RSC National Security Strategy: Strengthening America & Countering Global Threats.](#)

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Coyne, Michael

From: Coleman, Norm B.
Sent: Tuesday, June 16, 2020 7:58 PM
To: 'charlotte.davis@mail.house.gov'
Subject: Georgian Dream Statement on RSC 2020 National Security Strategy
Attachments: Georgian Dream Statement on RSC National Security Strategy.PDF

Dear Charlotte,

Attached please find the statement from the Georgian Dream governing party regarding [The RSC National Security Strategy: Strengthening America & Countering Global Threats.](#)

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Coyne, Michael

From: Coleman, Norm B.
Sent: Tuesday, June 16, 2020 7:58 PM
To: 'emily.hadden@mail.house.gov'
Subject: Georgian Dream Statement on RSC 2020 National Security Strategy
Attachments: Georgian Dream Statement on RSC National Security Strategy.PDF

Dear Emily,

Attached please find the statement from the Georgian Dream governing party regarding [The RSC National Security Strategy: Strengthening America & Countering Global Threats.](#)

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Coyne, Michael

From: Coleman, Norm B.
Sent: Tuesday, June 16, 2020 7:58 PM
To: 'hector.arguello@mail.house.gov'
Subject: Georgian Dream Statement on RSC 2020 National Security Strategy
Attachments: Georgian Dream Statement on RSC National Security Strategy.PDF

Dear Hector,

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Coyne, Michael

From: Coleman, Norm B.
Sent: Tuesday, June 16, 2020 7:58 PM
To: 'jake.hilkin@mail.house.gov'
Subject: Georgian Dream Statement on RSC 2020 National Security Strategy
Attachments: Georgian Dream Statement on RSC National Security Strategy.PDF

Dear Jake,

Attached please find the statement from the Georgian Dream governing party regarding [The RSC National Security Strategy: Strengthening America & Countering Global Threats.](#)

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From: Coleman, Norm B.
Sent: Tuesday, June 16, 2020 7:58 PM
To: 'kenneth.depew@mail.house.gov'
Subject: Georgian Dream Statement on RSC 2020 National Security Strategy
Attachments: Georgian Dream Statement on RSC National Security Strategy.PDF

Dear Kenneth,

Attached please find the statement from the Georgian Dream governing party regarding [The RSC National Security Strategy: Strengthening America & Countering Global Threats.](#)

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Coyne, Michael

From: Coleman, Norm B.
Sent: Tuesday, June 16, 2020 7:57 PM
To: 'max.huntley@mail.house.gov'
Subject: Georgian Dream Statement on RSC 2020 National Security Strategy
Attachments: Georgian Dream Statement on RSC National Security Strategy.PDF

Dear Max,

Attached please find the statement from the Georgian Dream governing party regarding [The RSC National Security Strategy: Strengthening America & Countering Global Threats.](#)

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Coyne, Michael

From: Coleman, Norm B.
Sent: Tuesday, June 16, 2020 7:58 PM
To: 'michelle.jelnicky@mail.house.gov'
Subject: Georgian Dream Statement on RSC 2020 National Security Strategy
Attachments: Georgian Dream Statement on RSC National Security Strategy.PDF

Dear Michelle,

Attached please find the statement from the Georgian Dream governing party regarding [The RSC National Security Strategy: Strengthening America & Countering Global Threats.](#)

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From: Coleman, Norm B.
Sent: Tuesday, June 16, 2020 7:57 PM
To: 'oren.adaki@mail.house.gov'
Subject: Georgian Dream Statement on RSC 2020 National Security Strategy
Attachments: Georgian Dream Statement on RSC National Security Strategy.PDF

Dear Oren,

Attached please find the statement from the Georgian Dream governing party regarding [The RSC National Security Strategy: Strengthening America & Countering Global Threats.](#)

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Coyne, Michael

From: Coleman, Norm B.
Sent: Tuesday, June 16, 2020 7:57 PM
To: 'rachel.wagley@mail.house.gov'
Subject: Georgian Dream Statement on RSC 2020 National Security Strategy
Attachments: Georgian Dream Statement on RSC National Security Strategy.PDF

Dear Rachel,

Attached please find the statement from the Georgian Dream governing party regarding [The RSC National Security Strategy: Strengthening America & Countering Global Threats.](#)

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From: Coleman, Norm B.
Sent: Tuesday, June 16, 2020 7:57 PM
To: 'valerie.foy@mail.house.gov'
Subject: Georgian Dream Statement on RSC 2020 National Security Strategy
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Dear Valerie,

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Coyne, Michael

From: Coleman, Norm B.
Sent: Tuesday, June 16, 2020 7:58 PM
To: 'ward.cormier@mail.house.gov'
Subject: Georgian Dream Statement on RSC 2020
Attachments: Georgian Dream Statement on RSC National Security Strategy.PDF

Dear Ward,

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Press Release: Georgian Dream – Democratic Georgia
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Republican Study Committee’s Report Highlights Georgian Dream-led Government’s Progress Strengthening the U.S.-Georgia Partnership

Georgian Dream Welcomes Strong Statement of Support for Georgia Support Act

(Tbilisi – 16 June 2020) In response to a new report from the House Republican Study Committee (RSC) that affirms Georgia’s steadfast commitment to the U.S.-Georgia strategic partnership under the Georgian Dream government, Georgian Dream – Democratic Georgia, issued the following statement:

“The House Republican Study Committee report confirms what our U.S. partners continue to state: Georgia’s commitment to the Western Alliance, to NATO and to our American partners has never been stronger than today. The RSC report confirms Georgia is America’s steadfast ally in the Black Sea region.

“We welcome the RSC’s strong statement in support of the Georgia Support Act before Congress. Passage of this important legislation will further strengthen the bilateral relationship.

“Let’s be clear: under the leadership of Bidzina Ivanishvili, the founder and chair of the Georgian Dream political party, the Georgian Dream-led government has moved Georgia closer to the Western Alliance, to the U.S. than in any point in the nation’s history. In this context, the allegations leveled by the RSC against Bidzina Ivanishvili and the governing party of Georgia are disconcerting. There is no evidence to support the RSC’s claims.

“The Georgian Dream-led government continues to work closely with the U.S. to strengthen Georgia’s readiness and defense capabilities in the face of Russian aggression, to counter cyberattacks aimed at disrupting our free and fair elections and to finally see a withdrawal of Russian forces from the occupied territories of South Ossetia and Abkhazia.”

The RSC report comes on the heels of [U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Philip Reeker’s recent comments](#) underscoring the strength of the U.S.-Georgia bilateral relationship. Reeker remarked, “our strategic partnership, based on the shared value of freedom and independence, has never been stronger.”

Key Excerpts from the RSC Report

- “Georgia is a democratic U.S. ally that has sent troops to both Iraq and Afghanistan.”

- “Alexis Mrachek of The Heritage Foundation notes, at the time of Russia’s invasion of Georgia in 2008, Georgia’s troop numbers were second to the United States’ in Iraq, and Georgia suffered the most per capita loss in Afghanistan of any nation” and “is the largest non NATO troop contributor to the NATO Resolute Support Mission.”
- “The Task Force believes that Congress should continue to work to strengthen Georgia’s readiness and defense capabilities by approving arms sales to Georgia in support of its efforts against Russian aggression, offering military assistance, and improving Georgia’s interoperability with NATO.”
- “The Georgia Support Act, which has passed the House but not the Senate, mandates a report on how the United States can work with Georgia to counter Russian disinformation and ensure Georgian security needs. It also requires the president to impose sanctions against foreign persons responsible for or complicit in serious human rights abuses in the Russian-occupied Georgian regions of Abkhazia and Tskhinvali.”

U.S. – Georgia Strategic Partnership under Georgian Dream-led Government

The United States and Georgia have [“a history of strong economic aid and security cooperation.”](#) Georgian Dream’s commitment to a pro-Western path for Georgia is unwavering. Over the past eight years, the Georgian Dream party has moved Georgia closer to the EU and NATO than in any point in the nation’s history.

The facts speak for themselves: the Georgian Dream-led government delivered a historic Association Agreement with the EU, including a Deep & Comprehensive Free Trade Agreement, and visa free travel to Europe. Security cooperation with NATO has never been closer with more joint training exercises than ever and Georgia agreeing to host new NATO facilities. The Georgian Dream-led government proudly signed the Memorandum on Deepening the Defense and Security Partnership between the United States and Georgia in 2016 and the Georgia Defense Readiness Program in 2017.

The Georgian Dream party cherishes both the ideals and values embodied in Europe and the United States, as well as the strategic, economic and military ties that we have built with our friends in the Western Alliance over decades. Our commitment to the Western Alliance, to NATO and to our American partners has never been stronger than today, under the Georgian Dream government. Georgia is the Alliance’s steadfast ally in the Black Sea. The U.S. has provided essential support in the face of growing hostility from Russia – such as the recent [cyber-attacks](#) from Russia aimed at undermining our governmental institutions, democracy, and the 2020 elections.

About Bidzina Ivanishvili

Bidzina Ivanishvili is a self-made, highly successful Georgian businessman, philanthropist and politician with the singular goal of creating a stronger, more prosperous Georgia. Bidzina is the

founder and current Chairman of the Georgian Dream Party in Georgia and an active philanthropist who is a prominent economic figure in the nation's emerging democracy. His devotion to his native land is profound: Bidzina has quietly contributed more than \$1.5 billion of his personal wealth to the Georgian people, building everything from theaters to sports centers and restoring beloved monuments of cultural heritage. Under his leadership, the Georgian Dream party has moved Georgia continuously closer to the U.S., NATO, and EU. The youngest of five children, Bidzina was born in the Village of Chorvila in 1956. He came from a very poor and humble upbringing, walking across frozen fields in second hand shoes while his father shoveled coal in a manganese factory. Despite the adversity of his situation, Bidzina valued his education, consistently placing near the top of his class.

Bidzina graduated high school in Sachkhere, continued his education at Tbilisi State University, and earned his degree in Engineering and Economics. Self-financing his studies, he worked as a cleaner and laborer at the Camo Mechanical Bottling Plant. In the same year he graduated from Tbilisi State University, Bidzina was named chief engineer of the facility.

Georgia was still under Soviet control when, upon graduation, Bidzina traveled to Moscow to pursue a postgraduate degree from Moscow Science and Research Institute of Labor. While working as a Fellow Research Assistant at the Institute, Bidzina decided to pursue a career in private industry. In 1988, Bidzina co-founded the cooperative AgroProgress, which would later evolve into a successful entrepreneurial venture. The company specialized in the sale of imported technology hardware, selling computers, phones and video recorders during the demand boom that came with perestroika. His company became the go-to source for push-button telephones, a then-novelty in Russia that helped his business realize commercial success.

Bidzina used the proceeds from his hardware sales business to open a bank, proving himself a skilled financier in the years to follow. His financial institution, one of the first private banks in post-Soviet Russia, went on to become one of the largest in Eastern Europe, specializing in precious metals and investments made in the newly privatized mining and industrials industry. One of his most famous investments was in the Stolinsky Mining and Processing Plant, as he purchased shares for \$150,000, and then sold those shares 15 years later for \$500 million.

Following the kidnapping of his brother and his resulting step-back from the public spotlight, Bidzina sought to return to his home country. In 2003, he came back to his homeland of Chorvila, the village of his childhood, with his wife and four children to be close to his mother and family.

Bidzina's unwavering commitment to democracy led him in December 2011 to launch a public movement that would eventually become the Georgian Dream political party. In 2012, Bidzina was elected Prime Minister serving in the post until the following year. Following his time as Prime Minister, he founded the NGO Citizen and assumed the title of Chairman of the Georgian Dream Party, beginning his tenure in 2018. Bidzina still serves as the leader of the party in 2020, fulfilling his mission of giving back to the people of Georgia through generous philanthropy and

steadfast political leadership. The leader of the Georgian Dream Party continues to invest in projects across the country, committed to making Georgia a beacon of what is possible for post-Soviet nations.